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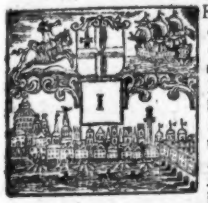
The *UNIVERSAL SPECTATOR*, AND WEEKLY JOURNAL.

By **Henry Stonecastle**, of *Lincoln's-Inn, Esq;*

SATURDAY January 7, 1744.

To HENRY STONECASTLE, *Esq;*

SIR,



IF we reflect ever so little on our own Species, and turn our Thoughts to a few Individuals of it within our Knowledge, we cannot but be convinced, both from Reason and Experience, of the great Importance of *Education:* And the same Means will soon inform us how *ill* this great Business of Life is for the most Part executed, and in how much Need it stands of a general and speedy *Reformation.*

This induces me to communicate to you an Instance I lately heard mention'd in Company, which I doubt not will be new to *many*, if not to *most* of your Readers.

A Gentleman of Learning and good Sense was blessed with a Son, who soon discover'd the Tokens of a *lively Apprehension* and *promising Genius.* This made the Father, as he had Time enough on his Hands which might have been less profitably employ'd, undertake *himself* to infuse into him the Rudiments of the *Sciences* and *Languages*; which he did in the following happy and effectual Manner.

He inculcated into him, with the first Dawn of Reason, the Doctrine of *Sin*, and that *Labour* was originally a Punishment for the Offence of our first Parents: At the same Time informing him that *Knowledge* was the Perfection of Human Nature, the only Qualification that not only elevated *Mankind* above the *Brute Creation*, but that gave *one Man* any solid Advantage over *another.*

To reduce these Principles to Practice, he told him that the *reading of Books* was the only Way of acquiring *Knowledge*, whether of *Natural Subjects*, or of God the Author of Nature. The Child, desirous of *knowing* many Things, and perhaps too of *pleasing* his Father, was from the first very assiduous, and made a Progress beyond what could be expected at his Years. It was only at some *stated Hours*, or when he had been guilty of any little *Negligence* or *Fault*, that he was put to *whipping a Top*, *playing with a Shuttlecock*, or some other fatiguing Exercise; which was always call'd by the Name of WORK, and a Release from which he was always taught to accept as a *Favour.*

By this Means, he had before *Ten Years of Age* acquir'd a surprising Knowledge in the *Latin Tongue*, and was very considerably advanced in the *Greek*; besides the having *read*, and committed to *Memory*, the most remarkable Things in a great many *English Books*; which his Father took Care should be both *instructive* and *entertaining.*——My *Narrative* proceeds no farther, but I believe you will think this short Account worth *inserting.*

I am, &c.

G. H.

P.S. I might have mention'd, but doubtless you will suppose it, that this Child was, by the same *Artifice*, kept from coveting the Company of *other Boys.*

Instead of making any Remarks on my Correspondent's Letter, I shall insert here a short Extract from M. *Rollin's Supplement au Traité de la maniere d'enseigner & d'etudier les Belles Lettres.* As I have not the *English* Version by me, I shall only endeavour to give his Thoughts in my own Words, without aiming at the Fidelity of a Translator.

Quintilian examines a Question that was much disputed in his Time, and which divided the Sentiments of Mankind, *viz.* At what Age we should *begin* to make Children *study?* 'Some, says he, believe that 'we ought not to attempt it before they are *seven* 'Years old, because before that Age the *Understanding* 'is not sufficiently enlarg'd to profit by the Lessons 'that are given them, nor is the *Body* sufficiently 'robust to bear any serious Fatigue.'

But *Quintilian* himself thinks in a different Manner, and supports his Sentiment by the Authority of *Chrysippus*, a celebrated Stoic Philosopher, who had treated the Subject of *Education* very critically. This Philosopher indeed allow'd *three Years* to the *Nurse*; but requir'd, that even then they should begin to form their *Manners*, and to repress in them those Sallies of the *Passions* which begin to appear in that tender Age, and which insensibly grow stronger, if Care be not taken to *fix* them in their *Birth.*

'Now, says *Quintilian*, if that Age is susceptible 'of Care with regard to *Manners*, why should it not 'be so with regard to *Study*? What can they do bet-'ter from the Time they have learn'd to *speak*? for 'something they must be doing. I know very well, 'that in this whole Period a Child cannot make such 'a *Progress*, as he will in only *one Year* after. But 'why should we despise this *small Gain*, and not make 'the most of this *early Advance*, however trifling? 'For this Year that has been thus won from *Infancy*, 'is an Acquisition to *Youth*, and will, upon the 'whole, enable the Child to learn more than he 'would otherwise have done.'

We should endeavour, therefore, not to lose these *first Years*, the rather, because the Commencements of Study require only a *Memory*, in which Children are known not to be deficient.

I find still another Advantage in this Practice, which is, the *bending early* the Minds of Children, and accustoming them to a Sort of *Rule*; the rendering them more *docile* and *submissive*, and preventing an indolent Habit, as contrary often to the Health of the *Body*, as to the Improvement of the *Mind.*

I can add a third Reason, which is not less considerable. Providence has implanted in Children a great *Curiosity* for all that is *new*, a wonderful *Facility* to *learn* an *infinite Number* of Things which they hear spoke of, a natural *Propensity* to *imitate grown Persons*, and to form themselves upon their *Example* and *Discourses.* By deferring the Culture of these young Minds, we neglect all those *happy Preparations* which Nature gave them at their Birth; and as Nature cannot be inactive, we oblige them to convert towards *Evil* those first Dispositions, which were design'd to facilitate what is *good.*

Quintilian was not ignorant, that some might object to him the *extreme Weakness* of the Age in Question, and the Danger of *impairing*, by premature Efforts, Organs yet tender and delicate, which a too severe Contention might disorder for ever.

'I have not, says he, so little Knowledge of the '*feeble Complexion* of Infants, as to pretend that they 'should be *urged* on vehemently at this Age, and 'oblig'd to a *close Application.* It should be a *Play*, not 'a *Study*; an *Amusement*, not a *servants Labour.* Agree-'able *Histories*, but short, and without Connexion, 'should be related to him.' We should ask them *Questions* according to their Capacity, furnishing them, at the same time, with a Hint for the *Answer* in the Manner of asking; let them have the Pleasure to think they *found* it of themselves, in order to heighten their Desire of learning; praise them from time to time, but with Caution and Prudence, for fear of giving them too much *Opinion* of themselves; *unsweeten* all their little *Questions*, and always with *Justice* and *Truth*; *refuse* sometimes to let them *study* when they ask it, to encrease their *Ardour* by this innocent Artifice; never employ *Constraint* or *Violence* in this Age, much less *Punishment*, to make them labour; for the great Business of *Governantes*, and of the *Masters* who succeed them, is to prevent Children, who cannot yet *love Study*, from conceiving an *Aversion* to it by the Trouble it gives them at the first Beginning.

A PASTORAL.

SILVIA.

I Ask no Aid from yon celestial Pow'rs;
The tend'rest Maid may hear such Love as yours:
But t'other Day, reclining on your Crook,
I saw you kissing *Flora* by the Brook.

DAMON.

As did my Flocks on this gay Mead regale,
Methought I 'spy'd my *Silvia* in the Vale:
I flew with eager but mistaken Speed,
And cou'd not less than kiss the blushing Maid.

SILVIA.

There's gentle *Phil*, gentle to the Fair,
Has prais'd my Bosom and my courtly Air:
Him love the Maids of *Milton's* flow'ry Plains,
And say he's fair among the fairest Swains.

DAMON.

There's *Chloe* too, whom all the Swains adore,
Has said to me much softer Things, and more:
She said, as on the Banks we sat embrac'd,
Oh! Pity, *Damon*——or this Day's my last.

SILVIA.

Go perjur'd Swain, go pity *Chloe* then,
And stamp thyself most false of faithless Men:
All thy soft Vows, and Tenders of thy Truth,
Were only echo'd from thy *Chloe's* Mouth.

DAMON.

My untaught Passion scorns from *Chloe's* Tongue
To borrow Praises that must do thee Wrong.
Her Mind, unpolish'd, ne'er from *Damon's* Form
Could paint for you my Passion just and warm.

SILVIA.

Thy ruddy Cheeks, thy Hair of silken Tet,
Thy just Proportion, and thy row'ring Height,
The little Loves that bask in *Damon's* Eye,
Are Themes on which a Maiden's Praise may rise.

DAMON.

Cease my fair Charmer, cease to rack a Heart
That tastes no Joys but Joys that you impart:
I bid the *Sylvan* Maids a long Adieu,
And have them all, and more than all, in you.

SILVIA.

Take then thy *Silvia* to thy faithful Arms;
Thy gentle Love shall plume my budding Charms:
Ye rural Nymphs the Garland strait prepare,
And crown in joyful Dance a happy Pair.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

St. Petersburg, Nov. 29. The Empress has dispatch'd to Day, to Prince Sherbatow, her Privy Counsellor and Minister Plenipotentiary to the King of Great Britain, as well as to her other Ministers at Foreign Courts, a circular Rescript concerning the Affair of the Marquess of Botta, whereof the following is the Translation.

By the Grace of God, We ELIZABETH the First, Empress and sole Monarch of all Russia, &c. &c.

Well beloved and Trusty,

YOU have been before acquainted with the just Complaints We have been oblig'd to make to the Queen of Hungary against the Marquess of

Botta, particularly by a Reſcript bearing Date October 30, to Our Privy Counſellor Lanzinſky at Vienna.

We did believe, after the repreſentations and Explanations made by Us, join'd to the circumſtantial and evident Proofs concerning this Affair, that the Court of Vienna would have had no Reaſon to doubt of the Solidity and Truth of theſe convincing Proofs againſt the Marqueſs of Botta, and that it neither would have delay'd to give Us the Satisfaction which it has promis'd to Us. Nevertheleſs We have obſerv'd in the Circular Reſcript, which the Queen of Hungary has ſent to Her Miniſters reſiding at Foreign Courts, and which likewiſe has been inſerted in the Publick Papers, that this Affair is treated on the ancient Plan, without having the leaſt Regard to Our juſt Repreſentations, reiterated Inſtances and other Conſiderations which deſerve Attention, and without even expecting the Proofs which the ſaid Court itſelf has deſir'd of Us to convince thereby the Marqueſs of Botta: That it continues entirely to juſtify him and to charge Us, as if We had committed an Injuſtice on the Perſon of the Marqueſs of Botta, and violated the Law of Nations. We are therefore neceſſitated, againſt Our Inclination, to diſpatch another Reſcript to Our Privy Counſellor Lanzinſky at Vienna, concerning the Injuſtice done to Us, and We have order'd a Copy to be tranſmitted to You, in order to make proper Uſe thereof, as well as of that of October 30, and to confute the Conduct of the Court of Vienna, by inſerting in the News Papers this Reſcript, as well as the two others which have been diſpatch'd to the ſaid Privy Counſellor Lanzinſky. And we aſſure You of Our Imperial Favour.

Given in St. Peterſbourg Nov. 29, O. S. 1743, by Order of her Imperial Majeſty.

Sign'd by

Count ALEXIS BESTUCHEF RUMIN,

AND

CHARLES BREVERN.

A Tranſlation of a Reſcript ſign'd by Her Imperial Majeſty's of all the Ruſſias own Hand, to M. Lanziesky, Her Privy Counſellor, and Envoy Extraordinary at Vienna, bearing Date, Nov. 28, 1743.

AFTER We have been inform'd by Your Reports of the Anſwers which have been made to You, from Time to Time, upon the reiterated Inſtances concerning Our Complaints againſt the Marqueſs of Botta, and ſince We have ſeen that the continual Delays and Evaſions of the Court of Vienna are chiefly grounded on new Proofs, and other neceſſary Informations concerning this Subject, which the ſaid Court hath required of Us:

We have thought proper, in order to ſatisfy the Demands of the Court of Vienna, as well as to prevent all other Pretences, to communicate to the Reſident Hohenholtz a circumſtantial Abſtract of the Depoſitions, which ſufficiently prove the Accuſations brought againſt the Marqueſs of Botta: We have ſent You likewiſe, by Our Reſcript, dated Oct. 30, proper Inſtructions to ſupport Our juſt Complaints, and in obtaining the requir'd Satisfaction, to put, according to Juſtice, a ſpeedy End to this Affair. We did therefore believe the Court of Vienna would have expected theſe Proofs and further Informations; and after having receiv'd them, that it would have chang'd its Sentiments, or, at leaſt, have delay'd any further to juſtify the Marqueſs of Botta, or to reject the Accuſations brought againſt him: Nevertheleſs We have, with much Aſtoniſhment, ſeen in the publick News a Circular Letter, which the Queen of Hungary has ſent to Her Miniſters reſiding at Foreign Courts, which, as well as the Letter She has written to the King of Pruſſia, in order to recal the Marqueſs of Botta, has no other View than to annihilate Our Complaints and Accuſations, and to render Us blameable; as if the Proceſs intended againſt the Marqueſs of Botta was an Undertaking contrary to Equity and the Law of Nations.

We never ſhould have expected that the Prevention of the Court of Vienna, in regard of the Marqueſs of Botta, and the Deſign which has been form'd to juſtify his bad Conduct, would have been carried ſo far as to deny Us the Regard We have a Right to claim, nor that it would have attempted to be reveng'd on Ourſelves, by caſting upon us Imputations and odious Expreſſions concerning the ſuppoſed Injuſtice done to the Marqueſs of Botta. The Difference is too great between Us and him to be put in any Reſpect upon a Level with him.

The Contents of the Queen of Hungary's Circular Letter, and all that is tranſacted at Vienna in reſpect of the ſame Affair, ſeems to have no other End than to juſtify the more and more the Marqueſs of Botta, and to elude the Satisfaction due to Us, as if Our Complaints and Our own Teſtimony to ſupport the intended Accuſation againſt him, did not deſerve any Attention, and as if all the unanimous Depoſitions of ſo many different Perſons, without having been oblig'd to it, as well as a Quantity of other evident Proofs, were not ſufficient to deem him guilty, and to have him condemn'd.

On the other Hand, the pretended Innocency of the Marqueſs of Botta, and the Nullity of Our Complaints, have no other Ground than his Reputation at Vienna, where it is ſo well eſtabliſh'd, that to make an Attempt againſt it, is conſider'd as infringing the Law of Nations; meanwhile, the Offence againſt Our Perſon is look'd upon as a Thing of very little Importance.

We are not willing to enter into a Diſcuſſing of a Matter ſo diſagreeable to Us; but we leave to the impartial World to judge what one may think of the Conduct of the Court of Vienna in regard to Us, in a Matter which touches Us ſo near, and which is ſo very ſenſible to Us. We never did intend to deſire from the Queen of Hungary any thing that is unjuſt, or to have Her ſacrifice an innocent Perſon, in order to give Us thereby a Teſtimony of Her Friendſhip; but We deſire Satisfaction from a Perſon who has been found guilty by inconteſtible Proofs, whom We accuſe as ſuch, and who, by his unwarrantable Conduct, has made himſelf unworthy of any Conſideration.

Notwithſtanding Our Reſentment againſt the Marqueſs of Botta, We have in no reſpect leſſen'd the Regard due to the Queen of Hungary, and We hop'd, therefore, that the Accuſation of ſuch a manifeſt Injuſtice, and Violation of the moſt ſacred Laws, would have been admitted, ſince there is no Country in the World where a Behaviour is conniv'd at parallel to that the Marqueſs of Botta has ſhew'd Us; but Our Hopes have been fruſtrated.

All the Arguments hitherto made uſe of to juſtify the pretended Innocency of the Marqueſs of Botta, and to reject Our juſt Complaints, may be reduc'd to the following Heads, viz. 1. The general good Character of the Marqueſs of Botta. 2. The Orders tranſmitted to him by the Queen of Hungary. 3. The Teſtimony of the Court of Berlin, and the Circumſtances attending his Miniſtry in the Court of the King of Pruſſia. 4. That there is nothing in Writing which might accuſe the Marqueſs of Botta, or any other Proof, except the Depoſitions of ſome Criminals, who might be drawn by Intrigues or terrify'd by Tortures, lur'd on with Hopes or ſeduc'd by Promiſes of Mitigation in their Sufferings, to offer falſe Evidence.

All theſe Arguments and Evaſions have been partly confuted already by the laſt Reſcript We have diſpatch'd to You: As for the firſt Point, We do not pretend to examine or attack the Reputation and the Merits of the Marqueſs of Botta, except what regards his Behaviour ſhew'd towards Us: But it is very certain, and cannot be contradicted, that he has given himſelf very little Pains to acquire a good Reputation by Us, becauſe he has, under the preceding Government, enter'd into many Intrigues againſt Us, and perſiſted therein, after Our Acceſſion to the Throne of Our Anceſtors.

As for the ſecond Argument, We have never call'd in queſtion the Nature and Import of the Orders and Inſtructions which have been tranſmitted to him by the Queen of Hungary, and We have already ſufficiently explain'd Us on this Point; but We have prov'd, at the ſame time, that theſe Orders, very far from juſtifying him, render him rather more worthy of Puniſhment.

In Reference to the third Head, We ſay the ſame in regard of his Miniſtry at the Court of Berlin; but concerning the Teſtimony of the ſaid Court, all that We know thereof is, that the Count de Dohna at Vienna has been order'd to declare, that the King of Pruſſia could not inſert the deſir'd Teſtimony of Innocency in the Recredential Letters of the Marqueſs of Botta, alledging, tho' this Miniſter never had made to his Pruſſian Majeſty any Propoſition of this Nature, yet that, nevertheleſs, he had not wanted to give out in his Diſcourſes, that a ſpeedy Revolution was to be expected in Ruſſia. This Circumſtance proves ſufficiently the little Foundation of all that is given out by the Court of Vienna upon the Account of that of Pruſſia, in Favour and Juſtification of the Marqueſs of Botta. This has been certified to Us by the Court of Pruſſia itſelf, and by its Miniſter reſiding here, from whence it appears evidently that this Teſtimony, inſtead of being favourable, is directly againſt the Marqueſs of Botta.

Concerning the pretended Invalidity of the Depoſitions, which could have been extorted from the Criminals either by Force or other Means, We believe to have already ſufficiently confuted this Objection; ſince We have declar'd to the Court of Vienna, that We have been Ourſelves a Witneſs of the Regularity which has been obſerv'd in this Reſpect, and that no Manner of Violence, or other forcible Means, have been us'd to obtain the Depoſitions of a great Number of different Perſons, who have made them voluntarily and unanimouſly againſt the Marqueſs of Botta. Theſe Circumſtances, which cannot be call'd in queſtion, ſufficiently prove the Validity of this Proceeding: Beſides, We pretend that Our own Teſtimony, and the poſitive Aſſurances We have of this Affair, ought to be abſolutely look'd upon and admitted as deciſive Proofs, and We flatter Ourſelves the more, that the Court of Vienna will not undertake to judge of it otherwiſe, nor doubt of this Teſtimony, by relying on ſimple Conjectures, and to infer thereby that ſuch a Conduct could be liable to prejudicial Explications.

Now as there is nothing more to be objected againſt the Depoſitions of the Criminals, or the Regularity which has been obſerv'd in this Reſpect, nothing remains but to invalidate the Objection which is made, and grounded upon a Pretence that there are no Proofs in Writing. This Evaſion can have no Room, and ought to be regarded leſs Eſſential; ſince it is partly known, that Engagements of this Nature are never ſign'd; and on the other Hand, Engagements in Writing are not without Oppoſitions and Contradictions, conſequently they are not abſolutely neceſſary: Moreover, in this preſent Caſe the Subject of the Deliberations has been ſo dangerous that it is not to be expected the Marqueſs of Botta would have had ſo much Impudence to hazard the Signing of any Thing in this Affair, or that others would have had the Aſſurance to keep his Letters.

Beſides, the Circumſtances of this Affair did not require the Marqueſs of Botta to treat the ſame in Writing with his Confidents; he had Opportunities enough both to ſee and to ſpeak with them: All theſe Meetings were ſpent in injurious and puniſhable Diſcourſes, in Wiſhes and Deliberations; but theſe Intrigues were too weak to prepare Things for a real Revolution, far from being conſiderable enough to cauſe it to be put in Execution.

One may eaſily believe, that the Marqueſs of Botta has been ſenſible enough of the Impoſſibility to cauſe his chimerical Projects to ſucceed: And we do not accuſe him to have been an Accomplice in an actual Conſpiracy; but we believe to have ſufficient Ground to deſire that he may be puniſh'd, becauſe he has been, not only a Party concern'd in the Deliberations and indiſcreet and ſeditious Diſcourſes againſt Our Perſon and Our Majeſty, but he has likewiſe been the principal Favourer thereof, and endeavour'd to procure Succeſs to his abominable Deſigns, by giving all manner of flattering Hopes to the Accomplices.

Finally, what we have juſt now obſerv'd ſerves likewiſe to confute the Objection made by the Court of Vienna in reſpect of the Declaration which you ſhould have made in the Beginning of this Diſcovery; that is to ſay, that the Whole was only a Chattering and Goſſiping of Women; from whence Concluſions have been drawn, that the Complaints made afterwards againſt the Marqueſs of Botta, did admit Contradiction. We have never given you Orders to declare, that this Affair was but a meer Goſſiping of Women; and We cannot perſuade Ourſelves that you ſhould have acted in ſuch a Manner againſt Our Order, the more, as the Reſcript tranſmitted to you, as well as to Our other Miniſters, after the firſt Diſ-

covery of this Matter, and the Confinement of the Criminals, enjoins you only provisionally to contradict the Rumours which might be dispers'd of a great Conspiration or other Dangers, by reason that upon such Occasions Matters are commonly enlarg'd, and that the whole Affair die chiefly consist in injurious and rash Discourses, and in malicious, though weak and feeble, Endeavours and Deliberations; whereas two Females had likewise render'd themselves guilty: Nevertheless, if even you had unadvisedly made Use of this Expression of Gossiping of Women, it cannot therefore be pretended that there is any Contradiction, far from finding therein any Justification in favour of the Marquess of Botta; for, though in Fact all these Deliberations cannot be regarded but as rash Discourses; and though all these Persons, being concern'd therein, have never had it in their Power, notwithstanding their evil Intentions, and notwithstanding the Assistance of the Marquess of Botta, to undertake any Thing essential against Us, nor to find amongst Our faithful Subjects Accomplices to their sinister Design; nevertheless it is evident, and cannot be contradicted, that in Matters of High Treason, seditious Deliberations, and rash Discourses, deserve the same Punishment as a real and effectual Violence.

We are very desirous the Court of Vienna would dispense Us from all these disagreeable Writings and useless Repetitions, in order to end this Affair, and to avoid all these tedious Explications, which cause the Time to be lost, useless, and only tend to exasperate the Minds?

Neither is it suitable for crown'd Heads, chiefly for Friends and Allies, to act in such a Manner, which in the present Case cannot be but prejudicial to Our Dignity. It would therefore be very agreeable to Us, if the Court of Vienna would avoid all such Prolixities, and let us know its Intentions by another Answer, whether it will or will not afford Us a just Satisfaction upon Our Complaints against the Marquess of Botta.

Mean while you are to make Use of what is abovemention'd in the most suitable Manner: And We have thought proper to send to all Our Ministers residing at Foreign Courts a Copy of this present Rescript, in the same Manner as we have done in respect of that of October 30, in order to answer the Circular Letter of the Queen of Hungary, which is inserted in the Publick Papers. And We assure you of Our Imperial Favour, &c.

Copenhagen, Dec. 27. Count Tessin, the Swedish Embassador, had a few Days ago a long Conference with the King's Ministers, in which he notified to them his being recall'd: His Excellency declar'd at the same time, that the Crown of Sweden wish'd for nothing more than to restore, in a proper Manner, a good Harmony with Denmark, but, however, did not appear dispos'd to accept the Conditions propos'd by this Court in regard to the Renunciations.

Venice, Dec. 24. We have lately receiv'd Letters from Ghilan, a Province of the Persian Empire, which confirm the Accounts formerly receiv'd of the surprising Progress made by the Arms of Kouli Kan. These Letters are dated the 18th of October, and not only assure us, that he has reduced Mosul, and beat a considerable Turkish Army, that had attempted to relieve Bagdad, but that, after blocking up that City, he was become Master of all the flat Country; and would not fail, as soon as the Season permitted, to march, with a great Army, into Natolia; and this News has been since confirm'd by Letters from Constantinople directly, where it is said, the People are strongly dispos'd to a Revolt; and that it is believ'd, before the next Spring, there will happen some remarkable Revolution in that Empire.

Manheim, Dec. 31. The French are making stupendous Preparations for War in Alsace, where there is lately arriv'd a great Body of Militia, which are to be incorporated into the Regular Troops. Several thousand Men are daily employ'd in the Fortifications of Strasbourg, Landau, Lauterbourg, Weissenbourg, Pfalzbourg, and other Places. All their Magazines are filling with Hay, Oats, Flour, and other Provisions, which they buy with Ready Money, from the People in the flat Country about Dourlach, and the Inhabitants of the two Bishopricks of Spire and Worms. These Provisions are transported, directly, to Germersheim, and from thence to the respective Magazines for which they are design'd, under the Escort of a strong Independent Company, and several Troops of Hussars. In a Word, the Pains taken by the French to secure themselves on this Side, are so great, and the Progress they have already made is so surprizing, that we foresee the Austrians find it extremely difficult to gain any Advantages, if they should resolve to prosecute the War next Year in the same Manner they did the last.

Marseilles, Dec. 27. We hear that the Spanish Fleet at Toulon will hoist French Colours when it comes out along with our Squadron, in order to oblige the English to let it pass, or else come to an open Rupture with France.

From the Paris A-la-main, Jan. 8.

A few Days ago a Courier was dispatch'd to Toulon, with the last Orders for embarking the Troops design'd for Italy.

Among the Spanish Troops actually embarking at Toulon, there are several Battalions of Militia, which are destin'd to compleat the Regiments in the Army under the Duke of Modena.

We are assur'd that Marshal Coigny is to command on the Rhine, Marshal Noailles in Flanders, and the Count de Saxe on the Moselle.

We are assur'd that the Houshold Troops are to serve in Flanders next Campaign.

It is reported that Prince Charles of Lorrain will command the Austrian Army in Flanders next Campaign, and that the Veldt-Marshal Count Kevenhuller is to command on the Rhine.

They write from Brest of the 1st Instant, that Sailors arrive there daily, and that they have already almost enough to man the 18 Ships, which are near equipp'd, and which will be join'd by five more Men of War.

We are assur'd that the Dutch are at the Eve of declaring their Mind; that the Prince of Saxe-Gotha furnishes the States-General with 4000 Men, and that England is to take 12,000 Danes into her Pay.

LONDON.

We hear that a *very great Lawyer* and *Statesman*, who some Years ago insisted on listening to the *Voice* of the *People*, in a just Demand of *Satisfaction* (now far they have been disappointed is not in the least chargeable on *him*) has lately again approv'd himself a *resolute* and *honest Englishman*, by refusing the *Sanction of his Office* to *Stipulations* calculated manifestly for *G——n Purposes*.

Few People imagine the new invented *Worm Powder* will have any considerable *Run*, the Ingredients being so *grossly pulveriz'd*, and *slovenly mix'd*, by *Empirick Yolm* and his *High German* Associates, that those who *swallow* it must have exceeding *good Stomachs*.

Never was *Expectation* more rais'd (since we have been so familiariz'd to *Disappointments*) than at the present *Preparations* of the *French* in the Ports of the *Mediterranean*, and the *Reception* they will meet with from our *gallant Admirals*.

Last Sunday being New-Year's Day, the same was observ'd at Court as a high Festival, when the Knights Companions of the most noble Order of the Garter, Thistle, and Bath, appear'd in the Collars of their respective Orders; at Noon there was a great Appearance of the Nobility to pay their Compliments to his Majesty on that Occasion.

The Ode compos'd by Colley Cibber, Esq; Poet Laureat, which was to have been perform'd before his Majesty on Monday, is entirely laid aside.

On Tuesday Morning Baron Horsland, Embassador from the Emperor of Germany, landed at Gravesend; in the Afternoon he arriv'd at his House in Great Pulteney-Street, and the next Day had a private Audience of his Majesty. We hear he has brought with him Proposals of the utmost Importance in relation to the Affairs of the Empire.

Tuesday an Order from the War-Office was sent down to Woolwich for fifty Matrosses, with Gunners, &c. to be draughted out of the Train there, in order to embark for Flanders.

At the same Time an Order was issued out for a General Muster to be made of all the Forces in Great Britain, including those lately rais'd, that a proper Draught may be made in order to compleat the British Forces in Germany.

Tuesday se'nnight the Right Hon. Thomas Winnington, Esq; Paymaster of the Forces, was rechosen for the City of Worcester.

The same Day Charles Hamilton, Esq; Receiver-General of his Majesty's Revenues in the Island of Minorca, and Clerk of the Green-Cloth to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, was rechosen Member of Parliament for Truro in Cornwall.

The Right Hon. Henry Finch, Esq; appointed Surveyor-General of the Board of Works, is rechosen for Malton in Yorkshire.

Charles Fitzroy, Esq; who has accepted the Office of Groom-Porter to his Majesty, is rechosen Member of Parliament for Thetford in Norfolk.

Last Sunday Isaac Martin, Esq; a Gentleman possess'd of a large Estate in Norfolk, was married at Westminster-Abbey to Miss Anna Maria Gibson, of Bloomsbury-Square; a young Lady with a Fortune of 15,000 l.

Sunday was married at Hackney, Mr. Cleaver, an eminent and wealthy Distiller at Mile-End, to Miss Sally Robinson of Hackney; a young Lady of excellent Accomplishments, with a Fortune of 7000 l.

The Right Hon. the Countess of Yarmouth is dangerously ill at her Apartments in St. James's House.

Private Letters by the last Flanders Mail advise, that on the 29th of December, N. S. Capt. James Marshal, belonging to the Regiment of Scotch Greys, died at Hanau: He was well respected by the Officers and Soldiers for his true British Bravery.

On the 21st past died at Edinburgh, the Hon. Thomas Dalzel, Esq; Grand Uncle to the present Earl of Carnwarth, formerly a Lieutenant-Colonel of the Scots Guards. He was a Gentleman who manifested his Courage and Conduct at the Battle of Almanza in Spain

Last Saturday died, at his Seat near St. Edmund's-Bury in Suffolk, Capt. Hollingsworth, of the Fourth Troop of Life-Guards, commanded by the Right Hon. the Earl of Albemarle, of which he was the eldest Captain and Adjutant.

On Sunday Night died, after a few Days Illness, aged 74, at her House in the Borough of Southwark, Mrs. Welstead, Widow of Mr. Welstead, formerly an eminent Haberdasher; by whom he had Thirty Children, many of whom are now alive.

On Tuesday died, at his House in Deptford, the Rev. Mr. John Simms, one of the Fellows of Wadham College in Oxford, and one of the Preachers of the Cathedral in that Univetsity.

Wednesday se'nnight the following Numbers were drawn Prizes, viz. 38,915, 1000 l. 65,691, 500 l. 53,426, 3,752, 50,098, 15,383, 23,933, 40,548, 654, 72,456, 25,883, and 70,500, 100 l. each.

Thursday the following Numbers were drawn Prizes, viz. 40,218, 22,122, 2819, 410, 2092, 11,179, and 8740, 100 l. each.

On Friday the following Numbers were drawn Prizes, viz. 10,884, 1000 l. 11,008, 30,857, 51,100, 24,614, 74,949, and 24,451, 100 l. each.

Last Saturday the following Numbers were drawn Prizes, viz. 50,659, 75,703, 41,722, and 67,216, 100 l. each.

On Monday the following Numbers were drawn Prizes, viz. 7,311, 39,689, 2,557, 73,142, 34,084, 30,891, 56,696, 39,062, and 440, 100 l. each.

On Tuesday the following Numbers were drawn Prizes, viz. 21,758, 2000 l. 14,670, 31,089, 15,688, 13,991, 43,702, 27,006, 1,666, 53,274, 5,765, 23,320, and 41,154, 100 l. each.

They write from Lewes in Sussex, that last Week Mr. Andrews, a wealthy Grazier and Maltster at Winchester in Hampshire, was attack'd on South-Downs by two Highwaymen, well mounted on Gelding, who rob'd him of 94 l. and then [illegible] off: 'Tis said he intends to sue the County.

Thursday se'nnight, about Seven at Night, [illegible] Smith, a Hemp-dresser in Brick-Lane, Spital [illegible] was attack'd by three Foot-Pads, arm'd with [illegible] lasses and Cudgeons, in the Fields leading

Stepney to Whitechapel, who threatned to mince him if he did not deliver all he had without Resistance: They took from him his Hat, Wig, Watch, and 17s. and then made off. At parting, they told him none should pass that Night without sharing the same Fate.

Last Monday Night, about Eleven o'Clock, one George Jennings, Servant to —— Horton, of Wandsworth, Esq; was attack'd at Fleet-Ditch, by a Man and two Women, who knock'd him down, and us'd him in a barbarous Manner, and robb'd him of his Hat, but some Persons coming to his Assistance, they made off; however, one of the Women was secur'd, viz. Eleanor Lloyd, and the next Day she was committed to Wood-Street Compter by Mr. Alderman Bernard.

As was William Eeles to Newgate, for stealing twelve Pieces of Linnen, and two Pieces of Cotton, Value 20 l. the Property of Mr. Hodges, and Company, of Cheapside.

Extract of a Letter from Tenterden in Kent, dated Dec. 27, 1743.

'Yesterday a Gang of Smugglers, consisting of 'above thirty, pass'd by this Place with Horses 'coming to apprehend them. They kill Sheep where-'ever they come, which they carry off as their Pro-'perty.

Extract of a Letter from Newport in the Isle of Wight, dated Dec. 28.

'The extraordinary Expedition used in repairing 'the Forts of Yarmouth and Lansdown Castle in this 'Island, the repairing of Hurst Castle, and the re-'building of Cashot Castle, at the Mouth of Hamp-'ton Water, has put us out of all Danger in case of 'a War with France.

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